

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1846.

The effect of Mr. HAYWOOD's late speech on the ultra Oregon party has been compared in some of the papers to the unexpected explosion of a bomb-shell. Upon no one was the effect of that speech more astounding than on the editor of the Executive organ, the Union. Him it seemed (to use a quaint Western figure) absolutely to have "knocked into a cocked hat." Reposing so long on the President's declaration of maintaining at all hazards fifty-four forts; scouting all ideas of compromise; denouncing as British-bought traitors those who did not lose the mark of "all of Oregon or none"; then all of a sudden to hear it proclaimed in the Senate-house, authoritatively and confidently, by a fast friend and supporter, that the President had ceased to occupy the extreme ground of "all of Oregon or war"; that he was actually willing to compromise, and no mistake; willing to come down to forty-nine—almost to "Cape Flattery"—the organ of the Executive, the keeper of his counsel if not his conscience—that he should be in darkness as to the Presidential mind; that he should be left in the lurch! It was not to be believed; "Mr. Haywood must be mistaken"; "he was not so understood"; "nobody had a right to speak for the President"; "Did not Mr. ALLEN contradict Mr. Haywood?" "Did not Mr. HANNEGAN interrogate him?" "The President would defend the rights of the country"; "he would never yield an inch." ["We won't run, Sir Lucius."] All very true; but still that ugly silence of Mr. HAYWOOD, and still that ugly silence of Messrs. HANNEGAN and ALLEN since! Have they not yet ascertained whether Mr. HAYWOOD spoke with authority? Do they still doubt? Alas, no. The editor of the organ would fain believe so, but his heart fails him; he hopes, but it is a "hope mixed with a killing fear." In short, the state of the organ, since that fatal Thursday, has been painful to witness: his "sufferings" do indeed seem "intolerable," and they betray him into the most amusing contradictions. One day he hangs out his banner on the outer wall of fifty-four forts; the next, fearing that he may be there left in a minority, (dreadful of old to all his sensibilities,) he descends a little, and seems willing to coquet with forty-nine; then, alarmed at the idea of concession, abuses the Whigs, bounds off to the north, and talks even of sixty-one. Thus, in a painful incoherence as to the ultimate action of the President, he vibrates between the extremes, settling at no point, but a mere thermometer, indicating from day to day the varying temperature of the Oregon feeling and prospects. The annexed remarks from the New York Express, on the same subject, will strike every reader as pertinent and forcible:

FROM THE NEW YORK EXPRESS.

"The Washington Union" in order to overwhelm the noise of mutinies in its own camp, turns to and rails at the Whigs for the course they pursue in the matter of Oregon! To knock the mutiny there, it makes all sorts of faces, and calls all sorts of names!

Now, the Whigs, in this business of Oregon, have no course at all. Whigs. Some go one way, others another, but all refuse to make a party question of it; all promise to stand by their country in every question, and all are for holding the Administration responsible for every step it takes in the negotiation.

While principles are naturally for peace, for order, and for bettering the condition of their fellow-men by the means of peace; and, if war comes, it comes in spite of us, and is not to be of our creation; but of a national we do not choose to make a party question. Such a course puzzles the Union. It can make no political capital out of it. The Whig course does not allow Mr. Polk to keep up a prodigious outcry for his own personal benefit—to bring the country to the verge of a precipice, and to keep us quivering over it; but it compels him to show his colors, to be for peace, or to prepare for war.

Hence we are ready to increase the navy, if, necessary, to strengthen the army, to keep up or add to the tariff, to lay extra taxes, to make loans; in short, to do anything to rescue the country from the ruin and disgrace of being pillaged the first year of a war, because we were so mad as to run into it without preparation.

But millions of dollars would not pay for the mischief the Union has done, from the first outcry it made, prior to the opening of Congress, for "the whole or none of Oregon," down to the present hour. It has arrested business; it has checked importations and exports; it has frightened capitalists; it has pained the arm of the employer and the laborer; and even here, in New York, where the gambling politics of the Administration are seen through, and nobody believes there is any real danger of war, the timid capitalist is frightened, and hoards up his treasures instead of putting them into active service for the common good.

The course of Mr. Polk, as we understand it, is about as equivalent as it is possible for that of a high functionary to be. His friends in Congress represent him, one set, a man of 49 and another of 54; and he has the merit of playing fast and loose with both, and of denouncing all. He stands hesitating between the fires of his party, receiving the shot of both, and, privately, if not publicly, denounced by both. The Union gravely tells us no Senator has a right to speak for him; as if there was a merit in decrying the friends that elected him, and allowing them to pick and hack each other in debate like cocks in a pit. Nay, more: we see Mr. Polk freely offering the line of 49 to the British Government; but, when he sees a portion of his own party denouncing him for it, shrinking from the responsibility, and covering behind the rebukes of bragging partisans as if he had done a thing he was ashamed of, and would, now that it was done, gladly retract from it if he could.

For the Union to represent such a course as this preferable to the course of Whigs, only shows that a government organ is especially established and paid to blow the trumpet of its employer.

The law recently passed by the Ohio Legislature, revising the State tax basis, is a very important one. It advances the basis from 135 to over 450 millions of dollars, and places the ability of the State beyond all doubt. It will furnish ample means to pay her interest and gradually to liquidate the State debt.

The Philadelphia Gazette has the following explanatory paragraph in regard to the vessel which was lately captured on the African coast whilst engaged in the slave trade:

"We are informed upon good authority that the barque Pons was sold at Rio de Janeiro as a trader by her owners, and that all interest in her on the part of Philadelphia ceased some time since. Her former commander, Capt. HARRIS, under the Philadelphia owners, was at last advised by the Rio de Janeiro, and intended to return to this city by the first opportunity. He could not, therefore, have been on board at the time of her capture.

"This statement is necessary to do away with the suspicion that might arise of Philadelphia being engaged in the infamous traffic in slaves."

NAVY.—A letter dated on board the United States ship Portsmouth, at Mazatlan, on the 14th of January, says: "The frigate Constitution, Capt. Percival, is now off the port, standing in. She is last from Honolulu, where she sailed since December 1st.

"The sloop-of-war Warren Com. Hull, is daily expected from Panama. She was last reported at Hilo, September 26th, bound for Panama.

"The Cyane, from Peru, is also expected.

"There are now in port the frigate Savannah, Com. Sloat, the Levant, Capt. Page, and the Portsmouth, Capt. Montgomery; officers and crews are all in good health."

CONSTITUTIONS—THEORY AND FACT.

Inasmuch as wisely to provide for any one great present public object requires a high effort of national sagacity, and adequately to provide for all public objects, and for long periods of time at once, must require the exertion of a prodigious quantity of civil intelligence, we consider it necessary to infer that wherever, in such a work as this last, a people consults its imagination instead of its judgment, it will of course employ the faculty that it has called in to the full extent to which it ought to have employed the other. Accordingly, Constitution making among us, which should be a very grave, solid, and slow business, has been and is a very swift and an exceedingly imaginative one: for whereas, when people are impelled to put out the whole strength of the faculty which they intend to employ, they much sooner arrive at the end of some faculties than others, so, in this matter, we might probably have soon attained all that our judgment can do, but can never reach a stopping-place as long as we are moved by the imagination only: whence we may, perhaps, in part understand why the "Progressive Democracy" may well expect that "progress" which it claims for its "inevitable destiny."

As one of the most curious instances of this visionary mode of making politics, we have long regarded the confidence with which our really great and wise founders, the authors of the "Federalist," looked to the certain success of some of the ingenious but untried resorts of our system. They were clearly admirable—provided only that the bulk of our people would always be virtuous and wise. It is particularly as to the supposed excellence and adequacy of the provisions in the Constitution for limiting the Presidential power, that one must be struck with the mistakes of earlier times, in reading what is said in the "Federalist," from its 67th to its 77th number, as to the manner in which guards had been set against all abuse or excess of the Executive power in our Government. We need hardly say that all the supposed securities themselves entirely unavailing: that impeachment has proved a punishment too weak to be visited on the strong, too strong to be visited on the weak; that the negative on the laws (there justified as hardly to be used except for defence of the Executive) has risen up into an independent and most formidable power over legislation itself; that the appointing power has been turned into an open seizure by the President of the disposal of all public employments for the behoof of himself or his party; and many other like things, "hateful and sad to mention."

But it is especially the gratulation with which the "Federalist" speaks of the perfect contrivance of the manner in which the President was to be elected, that has long struck us as a remarkable instance of the mistakes which the ablest men may make, when they are devising in Government untried resorts. Singularly enough it seems that not were there few who then foresaw the vast and dangerous excesses which Presidential electioneering was destined to breed, to the corruption or overthrow of nearly every thing else, but that nearly every body alike—the opponents as the friends of the new Constitution—concurred in regarding as wonderfully perfect just that part of the Constitution which was the first to be changed! Speaking of it, the "Federalist" says, in its 68th number:

"The mode of appointment of the Chief Magistrate of the United States is almost the only part of the system, of any consequence, which has escaped without severe censure, or which has received the slightest mark of approbation from its opponents. The most plausible of those who have appeared in print has even deigned to admit that the election of the President is pretty well guarded. I venture somewhat further, and venture to affirm that, if the manner of it be not perfect, it is at least excellent. It unites, in an eminent degree, all the advantages of the union of which was to be wished for."

In the twelfth year of the Constitution, at the fourth election for President—the first that had been at all disputed—the provisions thus applauded by all were found to fail, even in a very simple and capital matter. They had to be changed; and subsequent elections have constantly shown that they require entire alteration. Such an alteration, probably in the best form ever yet suggested, the Hon. Mr. VINTON, of Ohio, has proposed: but that interest which has grown stronger than all others—the interest of corrupting party power—opposes, and will no doubt defeat, an amendment which nothing favors but reason and order. Meantime, caucuses, conventions, and even the nomination of a successor by the President in power, have completely snatched away the election from free popular choice, and vested it in the management and intrigues of a few caballing leaders.

FROM ST. DOMINGO.

Capt. BLANCHARD, of the brig Demarara, at New York, from Mayaguez, (P. R.) which place he left on the 21st ultimo, states that there were two Spanish steamers, one frigate, and one schooner-of-war in the neighboring harbor of Anasco, awaiting the arrival of the sloop-of-war Lebrador. On her arrival they were to proceed together for St. Domingo, with the intention, as it is rumored, to take once more possession of the Spanish part of that island. It is also stated that a French fleet was cruising in the vicinity of Mayaguez for the same purpose. These statements need confirmation.

The ship Southey, Capt. Burgess, arrived at Boston from Port au Prince, brings dates to February 20. Captain Burgess reports that the Haytian Government were still under arms, and preparing for a general march against the Dominicans on the last of the month. The vanguard of the army set out from Port au Prince for the Cape on Monday, the 16th ultimo. The Haytiens felt much confidence in their ability to reconquer and subdue the rebels, as they termed them, and will probably march with a force of some thirty thousand strong. They have, besides, a blockade fleet of some five or six vessels of war.

COAL TRADE.—A fleet of thirty vessels, laden with anthracite coal, left Port Richmond—the Delaware river depot of the Reading Railroad—on Saturday, all bound for Eastern ports.

The Joint Convention of the State of Pennsylvania has nominated JAMES M. POWERS, of Mercer county, as candidate for Canal Commissioner.

RAILROAD SALE.—The bill for the sale of the Central Railroad passed the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan on the 4th instant by the decisive vote of 41 to 9. It has now to undergo the more dubious ordeal of the Senate.

LOUISIANA.—The question as to the future seat of Government of the State of Louisiana has been settled by the passage of a bill through its Legislature which locates it at Baton Rouge, and provides that after the 1st January, 1849, the Legislature shall assemble and the several State officers keep their offices in said town; and also that three commissioners be appointed to superintend the erection and furnishing of convenient buildings for the use of the Legislature and State officers.

The extensive flouring mill of Messrs. Erwin, Hunter, and Erwin, near Cincinnati, was partially destroyed by fire last week. Loss heavy.

The editor for the geographical department of the Union expends many words, in his paper of Wednesday night, to prove that a line of compromise which should give England the whole of Vancouver's Island, would, of necessity, convey with it the entire sovereignty of Fuca's Straits, and cut off the United States from access to Admiralty Inlet and all the sounds and rivers south of it; and the editor in chief, we suppose, in order to impart to the argument all the graces of Locofocoism, intersperses the article with the quantum of personal imputation which usually adorns the editorials of the official journal. These latter, it is true, daily repeated as they are, excite in our bosoms some indignation, but much more pity that they should have become the habitual if not favorite weapons of one whose position, ancient associations, and, we might add, age, had warranted the hope of better things. We regret all such modes of discussion to the contempt with which they are viewed by honorable men of all parties.

As to the question whether a line drawn west from the southern point of Vancouver's Island will strike the southern cape of Fuca's Straits, all the maps which we have been able to consult bear us out in denying it; but we shall not waste words to prove a geographical fact which is too "fixed" to be changed by the dictum of the Union, and which, if existing authorities are insufficient or doubtful, can only be established by careful scientific survey. It was not, therefore, to pursue the discussion ourselves that we took up the pen, but to introduce a reply from our correspondent whose first article, by being quoted by the London Globe and the Paris Messenger, roused the ire of the Union, and gave occasion to the remarks which we thought fit to interpose.

TO THE EDITORS.

GENTLEMEN: I am truly grieved that I should have been the luckless cause of involving you in a controversy with a learned and skillful antagonist, who has now, he appears to think, got you in a tight place.

In a communication sent to you some two or three months ago, my object was to suggest a line of boundary for Oregon, in accordance with two well-known principles of public law: 1st. That occupation gives the best title to territory. 2d. That when a boundary cannot be otherwise determined, the territory in dispute should be equally divided between the contending claimants. As the communication was intended to be very brief, and was hastily written, I entered into no details of argument or fact, and rather intimated than said explicitly that the line of equal division in the case of Oregon would be somewhere near the 48th parallel, and would pass near the southernmost point of Vancouver's Island; and thus obviate what was no doubt one insuperable objection on the part of the British Government to the 49th parallel, that it cut off from them a large portion of the island mentioned.

It never entered into my head to designate an exact, specific, inflexible line of boundary, wholly at variance with the very object of my suggestion—an equitable compromise. I knew that any compromise line would be a subject of cautious negotiation between both Governments, and that the terms designating it would be most carefully weighed, and exactly expressed; and hence that it would be folly in any private individual, having no means of obtaining accurate information of the topography of the land and waters in dispute, to attempt to describe a line of boundary in such a manner that commissioners could run it, even if both Governments should, with a marvellous concision, agree to accept it. Nor did it enter my head that our Government would, under any circumstances, consent to surrender to the British exclusive possession of the entrance of the Straits of Fuca.

But the "Union" says that the parallel of latitude running just south of the southernmost point of Vancouver's Island would touch Cape Flattery.

Now, in the first place, I deny this, and call for proof. What is the latitude of the southernmost point of Vancouver's Island? And what is the latitude of the Cape Flattery point of that part of the main land which lies south of the Straits of Fuca? It will not do to offer any chart, still less any map in evidence, unless accompanied by proof that such chart is the result of actual observation and survey, by a skillful observer who was provided with good instruments.

In the second place, I deny that to give to the British Government two points, one south and the other north of the Straits of Fuca, would necessarily give it the exclusive right to navigate the straits from and to the ocean.

If the "Union" will have the goodness to establish either of these positions—both of which are necessary to the support of the assertion—I will cheerfully consent to give up what I never intended to argue for, or even hint at—a specific, inflexible parallel of latitude running just south of the southernmost point of Vancouver's Island, and deflecting neither to the north nor south, no matter how many islands, farms, or farm-houses it cut in two, or whose toes it chopped off.

The "Union" will not admit of any similitude between the line proposed by Mr. GALLATIN and that suggested by your more humble correspondent. Be it so. I had flattered myself that there was some resemblance as well in the principles upon which he was led to the proposal of his line, as in what seemed to be a main object of it—to yield the whole of Vancouver's Island. But Mr. GALLATIN ventured to suggest what, after the ferocity displayed by the Government print, I should not have dared to hint at—the concession of the right to navigate the Columbia river. If the "Union" prefers Mr. GALLATIN's proposition I am content. Any thing for a quiet life.

Mr. GALLATIN's line would run through the middle of the Straits of Fuca for a certain distance. How is this line ever to be ascertained or marked out? Who knows how many fine oyster-beds or valuable pearl fisheries lie north of this middle line? Suppose an American vessel should be found just crossing the line, on a tack, would not the British have a right to cut it in two, and carry off the one moiety as a good prize?

I am surprised that the "Union" should seem to prefer a line having such manifest disadvantages, and giving up the navigation of the Columbia to boot, to that which I suggested, and which reserved the exclusive navigation of the Columbia, giving only a little flattery in exchange for it.

X. Y.

RETROCESSION.

The correspondent of the Baltimore American gives the annexed synopsis of the bill reported in the House of Representatives for retroceding Alexandria and that portion of the District south of the Potomac to the State of Virginia:

"The provisions of the bill in brief are, that, with the assent of the people of the town and county of Alexandria, that portion of the District ceded to the United States by the State of Virginia, shall be ceded back and forever relinquished to the State of Virginia, in full and absolute right and jurisdiction, as well of soil as of persons residing or to reside therein.

"The laws of the District are to continue over the citizens as heretofore, until Virginia shall provide by law for the extension of her jurisdiction and judicial system over the ceded territory.

"The assent of the people shall be given by vote to the act of cession, and the deed shall be done when a majority of the people vote in favor of it.

"The Government retains its ownership to the Custom-House and Post Office in Alexandria, and gives to Virginia the public squares, on which stand the Jail and Court-house."

SHIPWRECK.—We learn from the New Bedford Mercury that the brig Haislee, Chapman, of and from London, December 28, for Kingston, Jamaica, braced to and capsized while scudding in a gale (no date) latitude 30 34, longitude 52. The master, second officer, and nine men were washed overboard and lost. The survivors, (being the first officer and four men,) after being forty-eight hours on the wreck, were taken off by the schooner Three Sisters, of Ellsworth, Maine, and landed at Tarponville Cove the 9th instant.

About 1,800 bales of cotton were consumed by fire, at Savannah, last Sunday night, by the burning of the cotton shed occupied by Mr. John L. Cope.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

On Thursday an election took place in the State of New Hampshire for Governor, Members of the Legislature, and other State officers, and for a Representative in Congress from the district formerly represented by Mr. HALE, an anti-Texas Democrat. We find in the New York Tribune returns from twenty-four towns, which give the following result for Governor, as compared with last year:

	1845.		1846.
Whig.....	3,997	Whig.....	4,784
Abolition.....	896	Independent.....	1,706
Democrat.....	4,394	Democrat.....	5,161
Majority against the Democrats in 1845.....	1,329	Do do do 1845.....	499
Democratic loss.....	890		

Of the Representatives elected in the same towns 27 are Whig, 4 Hale, and 11 Democrat; last year there were 20 Whig, 1 Hale, and 15 Democrat; Democratic loss 10.

The Tribune remarks that the above returns "do not absolutely settle the State, but strengthen our hope that there is no election of Governor or Member of Congress, and that there will be an Anti-Texas majority in the House. The latter is still doubtful, however; the former we consider 'nearly certain.'"

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

The first Legislature of the State of Texas met at the town of Austin on Monday, the 16th ultimo, and was duly organized by the choice of EDWARD BURLESON as President of the Senate, and W. E. CHAMBERS as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On canvassing the votes recently cast by the people for a Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State, it appeared that Gen. HENDERSON received for the first office 8,910 votes and Dr. MILLER 1,672. For the second office, Gen. DARNELL had a majority of 48 votes, according to the official returns; but these did not include the returns of six counties, which gave Col. HORTON an aggregate majority of 600 votes. It is considered doubtful, therefore, whether Gen. DARNELL will accept the office.

On the 18th Governor HENDERSON was duly installed in office, in the presence of the Legislature and a large concourse of spectators. The ceremony was unusually solemn and imposing. After prayer had been offered up to the throne of Grace, President JONES delivered his valedictory address. The oath of office was then administered to the Governor elect by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, when the banner of the Republic descended from its position above the Capitol, to give place to the Stars and Stripes, and a peal of artillery announced that the Republic no longer existed, and that the annexation of Texas to the American Union was complete.

The New Orleans Picayune makes the following remarks on the two principal addresses delivered on the occasion:

The valedictory of President JONES is written with dignity, much feeling, and in a patriotic spirit. He congratulates the country upon the peaceful consummation of annexation, "an event the most extraordinary in the annals of the world." He pronounces the dissolution of the Republic of Texas with a full sense of the higher blessings to be derived from merging into the American Union, and then cheerfully surrenders the great trusts committed to him.

Gov. HENDERSON'S inaugural address is conceived in a pure spirit of patriotism. The author is impressed with a profound sense of the responsibilities of Texas, as a new member of the Union, and of himself as her first executive officer. In due time he will recommend measures for the action of the Legislature, as he is required by the Constitution. He concludes thus:

"We have this day fully entered the Union of the North American States; let us give our efforts to so nobly and so wisely as to advance our cause, and the benefit of American liberty, no reason to regret their efforts in our behalf. Henceforth the prosperity of our sister States will be our prosperity, and their welfare will be our welfare."

Messrs. HOUTSON and RUSK have been elected to represent the new State in the Senate of the United States.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

The Annapolis Republican furnishes the annexed notice of the chief acts of the Legislature of Maryland at its late session:

An unusually large number of local and private bills have passed the two branches, and each House has bestowed a large share of its time to the consideration of measures of public import, peculiar to itself as well as common to the two.

We mean by the latter the contested seat in the Senate, and the revenue bills, which can be originated and perfected only in the House of Delegates. The former has resulted in declaring the seat heretofore occupied by Mr. QUINN as Senator from Frederick county to be vacant, and a new election ordered to fill the same next October.

It is with pride that we look to the proceedings of the House of Delegates. All other measures are lost to our view in contemplating the event which we deem likely to give, inevitably and passed by that body, the full and complete restoration of State credit, the redemption of State debt, and the re-establishment of the State's honor. We mean not to disparage the action of the Senate; by no means. We accord them the credit due; but the responsibility in this matter is undivided, and rests alone with the House; the Senate have only to act upon measures, as received from that body, according to their actual merit; they cannot amend a bill in any manner affecting the Treasury. The honor of the State now depends on the Treasury, and is therefore almost entirely in the hands of the House. The concurrence only, and not the legislation of the Senate, is necessary on measures affecting this subject.

Though the condition of the Treasury at the commencement of the session was such as greatly to gratify the friends of State faith, it did not yet, however, justify the hope of being able with safety to resume the payment of her current obligations. Some other provisions were necessary before such a step could be taken, and with the present burdens resting upon the people it was dangerous to resort further to direct taxation lest they should fail. Some other expedient must be devised; and, through the Governor and the Committee of Ways and Means, with the persevering and indefatigable Mr. JOHNSON at their head, other expedients have been devised and have been enacted into laws. We have not time to call them to the attention of our readers in our present issue. They were sufficient to justify the most sanguine anticipations of State faith men, however, and to lead to the consummation of the duties of this Legislature, in appointing a day for the State to resume the payment of interest on her public debt, a measure to that effect having passed the House by a large vote. Nor is the minority vote to be taken as opposition to the measure in the abstract. We believe that for prudential considerations there would have been not a single vote against it. Gentlemen indeed so expressed themselves on the floor; and it was with regard for the honor of the State, which a failure to comply with this renewed engagement would eminently endanger, that they preferred to postpone the resumption until experience should fulfil the anticipations of those whose solicitude they deemed might have over sanguine. But the State must know no feinting. With more consideration and with more emphasis than characterized the expression of General Miller, he has said "I'll try." To try is to succeed. She has commenced a charge towards the post of honor; she must reach it.

The New Orleans Bulletin states that the United States troops stationed at Corpus Christi were to move about the 6th instant for a station commanding the Rio Grande. Three companies left on the 26th ultimo to act as escorts for the train of baggage wagons daily fitting out. The scouts previously sent to Point Isabel had returned and reported favorably of that place for an encampment.

LITTLE LATER FROM EUROPE.

The packet-ship Liverpool, from Liverpool, arrived at New York on Thursday evening. She sailed on the 16th February.

The intelligence of course is not important. In Parliament Railway matters have engaged almost exclusive attention.

Flour in the Liverpool market has fallen. In Cotton the demand has been good, and the previous prices have been fully sustained, and in some instances an advance of 1-8d. was established.

The debates in the French Chambers were concerning the expedition of Madagascar.

According to the "talk on 'change'" of the Liverpool papers, Sir ROBERT PEEL'S chance of carrying his commercial measures is increasing. The Peers, however, it is still feared will stand by their order.

The problem of whether Sir ROBERT PEEL'S ministry will stand made no progress towards a solution since the previous advices.

Another rumor was that many of the provinces withdrawn from the Duke of WELLINGTON on the first blush of the new ministerial arrangement, had been returned to him.

[New York Courier.]

FROM CHINA.

The New York Commercial Advertiser has received by a late arrival Hong Kong papers to the 27th November, from which it gleans the following intelligence:

The Hong Kong Register of November 18 mentions the departure of a Government steamer (the Vixen) on the 13th for Whampoa, whither she was dispatched by Governor DAVIS to bring down the Imperial Commissioner Keying, the purpose of whose visit, according to the Register, was "to settle all matters between the two Governments preparatory to the surrender of Chusan to the Chinese." Our readers have been advised that a purpose to keep this island, in direct violation of the treaty, has been forwarded, or at least strongly advocated by journals both in England and India. The language of the Register on this subject is worthy of notice. It says:

"We have already stated our conviction that, by the exercise of a prudent degree of firmness on our side, all reasonable concessions will be procured from the Imperial Government, and that the refusal of these would afford just grounds for postponing the withdrawal of our forces from Chusan. We should, however, regret it much should such measures be deemed necessary. However just the further retention might appear to us, or even to an unprejudiced spectator, it could not fail to be productive of great jealousy and heart-burnings among the Chinese, who are fully aware of the way our empire in India has been extended, commencing from equally small beginnings, and would not fail to attribute to us most sinister motives."

The Register then indicates, as points to be insisted on—probably with an eye to the retention of Chusan if they are not conceded—the right of admission for Englishmen to the city of Canton, and free permission for all Chinese vessels to resort to Hong Kong.

The Batavia Courant of November 1, quoted in the Register, announces the arrival of the United States ship-of-the-line Columbus, on the 23d of October, and of the sloop of war Vincennes on the 25th—both bound to China. They took in water and sailed on the 28th.

The Register copies from the Polytechnic of September 6 the following paragraph, under the head of Tahiti:

"On the arrival of the British admiral at Tahiti he saluted the Protectorate flag, to the great chagrin of the natives. Despatches had been received at the island, both from England and France, announcing that the Protectorate was not to extend beyond the real dominions of Pomare, which of course confines the French to the islands of Tahiti and Eimeo. Pomare will therefore be no further troubled if she prefers remaining at Raiatea to returning to her native soil. She is represented to be in deep distress, having lost her young daughter Victoria."

BRAZIL AND THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The Courier des Etats Unis has Rio Janeiro journals up to December 17. It says that they contain no news in regard to the progress of the Anglo-French intervention in La Plata. The Brazil Courier of December 5, however, gives some particulars of the progress of the Anglo-French intervention in La Plata, and the Argentine Republic.

On the 17th of November, M. Guido, an Argentine, the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, related to M. Guido, and in a long despatch, applied himself to the task of refuting the accusations brought against the Government of Brazil of having violated, in a great number of cases, the neutrality imposed upon it during the war between the Argentine and Oriental Republics. M. Guido had denounced, as contrary to this neutrality, the refuge granted, on the Brazilian territory, to the wreck of Rivera's army after many battles.

One of the provinces of Paraguay has formally invoked the Anglo-French intervention; and this subject occupies the most important place in these diplomatic documents. The gravest accusation brought against Brazil by M. Guido is the having invited the French and English fleets to La Plata by the mission of M. d'Abraham. In his reply, the Brazilian Minister refutes the accusations of his opponent on this subject. This refutation is worthy of note in this respect: it seems to vent as much discontent against Buenos Ayres as against the Governments of France and England, and contradicts the declarations of Lord Aberdeen and M. Guizot. The former, in his last speech in the House of Lords, declared, in effect, that M. d'Abraham had come to solicit positively the intervention of France and England, both united to Brazil on the La Plata question; and that if France had decided upon this intervention it was only to prevent its being made by others.

It is true that after having been brought by the movement of Brazil to intervene between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, Lord Aberdeen and M. Guizot thought it was most prudent to act alone and without Brazil, in order not to compromise that Power in the eyes of the other American Republics.

The Brazilian Government seems not to have understood this prudent reserve of the two European Governments, and evidently regards them with ill-will. It remains to be seen, says the Courier, what will be said in Europe as to these denials relative to the mission of M. d'Abraham.

M. Limpo de Abreu, the Brazilian Minister, at the close of his reply to M. Guido, the Minister of Buenos Ayres, asks whether he insists on the demand of his passports, to the end that they might be sent to him if he should think proper to do so. M. Guido replied, on the 22d of November, that he could decide on nothing before the receipt of fresh instructions from his Government. Matters stood thus at the last dates.—N. Y. Express.

DISASTERS BY THE LATE GALE.—Several of the Atlantic packet-ships which have been so anxiously looked for arrived at New York on Saturday and Sunday, all of them having suffered considerably in their sails and rigging from the extreme severity of the weather. Speaking of these disasters, the Courier remarks: "It has never fallen to our lot to record so much distress and suffering. The gales of the 14th and 15th February and 2d and 3d instant have been peculiarly severe. Among the large number of arrivals on Saturday and Sunday, scarcely any but have suffered, and some very severely. From the reports of these vessels we have not yet heard of the worst effects of the tremendous storms which have buffeted our coast for the last six weeks. From the number of vessels that have been seen full of water and abandoned, and the great quantities of wrecked stuff, spars, masts, &c. that have been passed, we fear there has been great loss of life as well as property."

THE BOSPHORUS.—The Sublime Porte has addressed a circular to the Governments of different stations, our own among the rest, stating that the Sultan has been pleased to modify the long-established regulations in regard to the Straits of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, so far as to permit merchant vessels to enter the latter in the night as well as during the day.

THE MASSACHUSETTS BANKS.—There are 104 banks in the State of Massachusetts, and the whole amount of capital stock paid in is \$30,970,000. About two-thirds of this capital stock is in the Boston banks, of which there are 24. The amount of gold, silver, and other coined metals in all the banking houses is \$2,357,701 25. The total amount of the resources of all the banks is \$65,017,025 06. The dividends have averaged about six per cent.

EDITORS CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY 28, 1846.

The news by the Cambria was received here today, and of course was very acceptable, both as to its pacific nature and the prospect of opening the ports.

I think some of our war bullies, in and out of Congress, particularly the former, must feel very cheap, and at any rate they appear so in the eyes of the nation, in comparing their own conduct as connected with the Oregon question, with that on the other side of the water, where all parties (Ministerial as well as Opposition) conduct themselves with so much dignity, courtesy, and respect on this exciting subject; and I sincerely hope the example will not be lost upon us, and that such a humiliating contrast will not again be offered.

The boon of a repeal of the corn laws and the general reduction of duties on provisions has always been over-estimated in this country. In salt provisions, cheese, butter, and lard, we can probably undersell other nations in supplying Great Britain; but in breadstuffs, particularly wheat, the Baltic and Black Sea can